

## City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 8, 2004

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION RE-ESTABLISHING THE CITY/INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL TASK FORCE

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**ISSUE:** Resolution re-establishing the City/INOVA Alexandria Hospital Task Force.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council adopt the attached resolution and request the Mayor to appoint two Council members to serve on the Task Force.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilman Smedberg asked that Council consider re-establishing the City of Alexandria/INOVA Alexandria Hospital Task Force. For many years the City government and INOVA Alexandria Hospital have had a strong working relationship and a history of cooperation on health issues and other matters involving the City and the Hospital. For example, in 1974 when the Alexandria Health Department's Casey Clinic was relocated, City Council and representatives of the Hospital agreed that locating the Casey Clinic on the grounds of the Hospital would enhance cooperation and coordination in the medical treatment of the uninsured, income-eligible City residents who came to the Hospital and to the Casey Clinic.

In the late 1970's and early 1980's a City Council/Alexandria Hospital Task Force was established by Council to examine financial issues, the relationship of Alexandria Hospital to other hospitals, funding of the State and Local Hospitalization (SLH) Program, Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement and the problems associated with providing hospital and medical care to the medically indigent residents of the community.

Since then, from time to time a group similar to the task force (which included members of Council, representatives of the Hospital Board of Directors and City and Hospital staff) has been convened when issues arose about Hospital expansion plans, City funding for the Hospital or City/Hospital programs (such as the recent closing of the Psychiatric Unit at INOVA Alexandria Hospital).

With the many changes in the provision of medical care over the last 25 years, the need to streamline and control the costs of medical services while finding ways to address the medical needs of the community, and the City government's concern that INOVA Alexandria Hospital continue to have a strong link with Alexandria, we believe that the City/INOVA Alexandria Hospital Task Force should be re-established. Some of the other matters that could be addressed by the Task Force include any further transition issues arising from closing of the Psychiatric Unit at INOVA Alexandria Hospital, the ongoing partnership between the Hospital and the Alexandria Health Department and its Casey Clinic, the re-routing of Alexandria Emergency Medical Services ambulances when the Hospital Emergency Department reaches its capacity, and ongoing facility modifications and the proposed expansion of the Hospital including issues that may arise in the neighborhood.

The Task Force would include two members of City Council, two members of the Board of the INOVA Health System and representatives of the City and Hospital staff. The Task Force would meet at least quarterly and would discuss items of mutual interest to the City and the Hospital.

**ATTACHMENT:** Resolution

**STAFF:** Michele R. Evans, Assistant City Manager

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City Council recognizes the vital role of INOVA Alexandria Hospital in the community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to enhance communication and cooperation between the City government and INOVA Alexandria Hospital; and

WHEREAS, in the past the City and the Hospital have successfully worked together on a City Council/Hospital Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to re-establish a City Council/INOVA Alexandria Hospital Task Force;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alexandria City Council hereby re-establishes a City Council/INOVA Alexandria Hospital Task Force which shall consist of two representatives of the Alexandria City Council appointed by the Mayor, two representatives of the INOVA Health System Board appointed by the INOVA Health System, the City Manager or his designee and the Administrator of INOVA Alexandria Hospital or his designee with support from other City and Hospital staff as required.

The Task Force, which will meet at least quarterly, will review financial, programmatic and other matters that jointly affect the City and the Hospital in an effort to further enhance cooperation and communication between the City and the Hospital.

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

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WILLIAM D. EUILLE,      MAYOR

ATTEST:

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Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC    City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 2119

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ADOPTED: October 12, 2004



WILLIAM D. EUILLE

MAYOR

ATTEST:



Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk